Farm Products Marketing Agencies Bill

the thing. Yet people expect the agricultural industry to produce and produce.

If it is a perishable product that is produced then that is just too bad. People will say, "Lower the price way below the cost of production, and hopefully somebody will buy it." From my experience in the perishable products industry I can tell you that people do not always buy. And when they don't, apples go in the dump, baby chickens go in the ash can, and eggs are turned into some kind of egg solid. In other words, the farmer is supposed to say to the world, "I have produced this product. How much will you give me for it?"

I would like to be able to go into the office of the hon. member for Hamilton West in the morning and say to him: "I have two houses that I wish to convey today. I have looked at the market price, and the market price for conveying appears to be \$87.50 per house. I want this done by two o'clock this afternoon. If you don't get it done by two o'clock this afternoon I shall take my business somewhere else." Just imagine trying to do that sort of thing.

I am not opposing the system by which the legal profession works. I think it is a very fine system. I think it serves their industry. They discipline themselves. They say to certain members of the bar, "You are not doing the right thing. We, the members of the bar, shall discipline you because you are doing the wrong thing."

**Mr. Horner:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I believe that we are still on amendments Nos. 2 and 3. The hon. member is making what I would call a third reading speech. Doesn't he want to stay here until midnight? He is the one who is keeping us here so late.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. The point raised by the hon. member for Crowfoot is well taken. On the other hand, with the limited time available for debate, the Chair generally has given a little leeway to hon. members if only for the purpose of preventing too much time being spent on points of order.

**Mr. Horner:** On the same point of order, Mr. Speaker, we have from now until ten o'clock to deal with about 20 or 25 amendments, and then we will start to vote on them. The hon. member should deal with this amendment and make his third reading speech later.

Mr. Pringle: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the advice of the hon. member. I have never made a speech in this House when the hon. member for Crowfoot (Mr. Horner) has not stood up and helped me out. As a relatively new member I appreciate this. He and I sit on the same side of the House, although I am a government member, and I can assure him that I will certainly return the favour.

I was merely responding to statements made by the honmember for Hamilton West. Whether we are going to eliminate cattle and calves, or eliminate potatoes, the point I would like to make is that this is not new legislation. This is not something that has never been tried. This is not something that is suddenly foisted upon the agricultural producers of Canada. This is simply enabling legislation to assist people involved in the industry, if you like in cattle production, or potato production, or in any other

type of agricultural production, to create within their commodity groups a national organization.

For many years we have had provincial marketing boards. My province of British Columbia has been a leader in planned production, in orderly production and orderly marketing. It is a province which has probably been more successful in all types of agriculture than any other province, and its farmers get their money from the market place instead of from the taxpayers, unlike farmers in a lot of other areas. I think we should be concerned to provide this opportunity to all segments of the industry, including those people engaged in the cattle business.

I have never ceased to be amazed at the little knowledge which the hon. member for Mackenzie (Mr. Korchinski) and the hon. member for Crowfoot have displayed with regard to present day marketing boards. I do not believe they have ever actually attended a marketing board meeting. I am not sure they know who the marketing board people are, that they can call the presidents by name; and here I refer to the egg, turkey and butter boards. I do not think they have investigated and discovered what is a contemporary marketing board.

This bill is simply enabling legislation that is being made available to all commodity groups in Canada. The bill makes it very plain that it is not intended to be forced on anybody.

Another point which I wish to make, and make forcefully, is that this is a producers' bill, not a bureaucrats' bill. The producers of Canada—

• (9:00 p.m.)

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. I regret I have to interrupt the hon. member but the time allotted to him has expired. The hon. member for Richmond (Mr. Beaudoin).

[Translation]

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): I wish to make a few comments, Mr. Speaker, on the amendment before us, which was proposed by the hon. member for Crowfoot (Mr. Horner) concerning cattle and calves.

I think it is necessary first to know who wishes cattle and calves to be included in the bill. We all received a letter dated April 15, 1971, which read as follows:

To all members of the House of Commons, Ottawa, Canada.

First, let me remind you that the Canadian Cattlemen's Association is the national organization representing beef producers throughout Canada. Beef producers are also represented by strong provincial associations affiliated with the national organization.

As to the question to which I am going to refer, I can state positively that it received unanimous agreement from the various provincial organizations and from the Canadian Cattlemen's Association.

The purpose of this letter is to state our position concerning Bill C-176, an act to establish national marketing agencies for farm products, the approval of which we believe is impending.

The intent of this bill, as you will understand, is to allow the enactment of laws to vest the federal government with vast powers regarding the production and marketing of all farm products, except milk and wheat which are already regulated.

It is for strong reasons of principle and sound economic management that beef producers rejected Bill C-176 and asked that their product, steers and calves, namely beef and veal, be exempted from the bill. As responsible Canadian citizens we repudiate